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and essence of society and state. In the stage of early nationalism the structure of society and state had undergone a fundamental change. The modern state, based on unity and on law, lays the foundation to nationalism; besides this, several causes in social life and culture help to bring it forth; a great influence may here also be conceded to individualism. They all create nationalism, which, however, does not gain importance as a creative idea until toward the end of the eighteenth century. In the nationalistic period the expansion, the essence, and the intensity of nationalism become visible, with their relations to state and economic life.

Of especial importance at the present hour may be considered the last section of the book, which deals with the currents of thought opposed to nationalism. Rival ideas are rising at its side, ideas which strive to go beyond its aims and to lay stronger claims on states and nations. *Imperialism* and *state unionism* may be mentioned here—the latter being a voluntary coalescence of sovereign states into one political structure, without, however, giving up their individuality and full independence.

These few words do not suffice to give an idea of the wealth of Professor Mitscherlich's book. Especially his theory of plurality lifts it above the level of a scientific publication of the day and gives it a personal note. The whole work abounds with valuable sociological insights. The calm, purely scientific tenor of it, standing above all party dispute, will be enjoyed by all those who desire an objective, clear view of this important and exciting subject.

E. SCHWIEDLAND

UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA

The Casual Laborer and Other Essays. By CARLETON H. PARKER.

With Introduction (26 pages) by Cornelia Stratton Parker.

New York: Harcourt, Brace, and Howe, 1920. Pp. 199.

(Published posthumously.) \$1.75.

Carleton H. Parker plunged into first-hand studies of laboring conditions, especially at their worst. Unshackled by traditional economic theories and fired by dynamic humanitarian purposes, Parker in his relatively few years penetrated close to the heart of the conditions which produce the casual laborer, the I.W.W., the economically defeated.

Parker's approach to industrial problems was through the avenues of behavioristic psychology and is subject to the criticisms which are befalling that type of psychological theory. The chief criticism of

Parker's point of view is that individual responsibility and individual selfishness are both seriously underrated. Further, Parker professed a so-called scientific unwillingness to give full recognition to the intangible but nevertheless highly influential forces of moral motivation.

In the essay on "Understanding Labor Unrest," Parker makes plain how unjust laboring conditions supported by abstract and harsh economic theories have suppressed the normal and healthy instincts of many laborers and created the spirit of radicalism. The essay on "The I.W.W." is the best available analysis of the type of mental attitude which is common among the defeated strata of American labor. In "Motives in Economic Life," Parker observes that "the domination of society by one economic class has for its chief evil the thwarting of the instinct life of the subordinate class and the perversion of the upper class." While this conclusion is correct as far as it goes, it overrates the importance of the instinct life. It fails to provide for the defeat of that virulent selfishness which is now so outspoken in both parties of the class struggle. It does not bespeak a socialization of the purposes of all classes.

E. S. BOGARDUS

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Broken Homes. By JOANNA C. COLCORD. New York: The Russel Sage Foundation, 1919. Pp. 208. \$1.00.

Statistics indicate that 10 per cent of the demands made upon organized charity come from family desertion. The proportion of time and money spent in dealing with such cases is in excess of that figure. For years it has been one of the most expensive and baffling of the problems faced by relief societies, and one productive of extensive harmful effects upon society at large. To professional charity workers, especially, this little volume of Miss Colcord's should prove of real value and serviceability, for it contains the most thoroughgoing and practical plan of dealing with desertion which has yet appeared. The writer is herself a specialist within this field, and she is able to supplement her own extensive experience and observation with first-hand knowledge of the methods and judgments of many of the ablest workers in the country. The book must be regarded as *the* authority to date on the important question of how to deal with cases of this type. Details of immediate treatment are supplemented by practical suggestions as to "next steps in corrective treatment." The closing chapter is devoted